

SENATOR DE CAMP: I oppose bringing the bill to the floor, and what I want to say next, I want to preface by saying I think Peter Hoagland, I consider him one of my closest friends, I like him, I think he is one of the most intelligent guys there is. When it comes to accountability laws and people running for office, I think he is the most dangerous person in the whole state. Now the problem that Peter is trying to correct, if it is a problem, Peter almost singlehandedly created. That is right, Peter created the problem. Let's talk about it. Remember in the BH days, before Hoagland days, before common cause in other words, if Bernice Labedz or Johnny DeCamp or Senator Kelly wanted to run for election, we would get out there going up and down the streets and we would go see a teacher, we would go see a car dealer in town. We would go see these people and we would say, we are running for the Legislature. We would appreciate your help and support and the car dealer would say, he would say, well listen, where do you stand on A and B and C and D and what are you going to do about this and so on and you would have to put up and explain and maybe he would give you ten or twenty or thirty dollars or a hundred dollars. Maybe he wouldn't. By golly, you had person to person contact at every level and then came Peter, and Peter, in the wake of Watergate and with the mood that all politicians are crooks and we all know that obviously or they wouldn't be politicians, Peter said we have got to have a law that gets them all honest so we can watch them like under a microscope. So we created our accountability law. Now what did the accountability law have as the very heart of that law? Why the accountability law had packs. That is the new system that Peter created, packs. Now Johnny and Kelly, we go down the street and we walk into the car dealer's office or place and we say, Sam, we're running for the Legislature and we would like your support. And what does the car dealer say? He says funny you should mention that. You've got to talk to our lobbyist whether it is Johnny Sullivan or Tim Jones or Bill Smith or whoever. He says, we contribute to a pack. We have a pack. Our pack determines who we support and oppose, so on and so forth. So what happens? You have taken Kelly and Johnny and you have ordered us to go talk to that pack lobbyist. That is where it has to come from. Peter's monster, but now he says, golly, there is a monster out there we better watch out for. Peter created the whole cotton picking thing. He removed your ability to talk to the individual out there because that individual don't talk to you anymore. He's got a pack. He's got a lobbyist. Everybody has got a lobbyist. Everybody has got a pack. Every time you keep trying to make it look